

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A welding torch (10) including a torch body (27) and a drive unit (35) for conveying a welding wire (13), particularly for different wire-conveying speeds or a forward/rearward wire conveyance, as well as a hose pack (23) connected to the torch body (27) at an angle relative to a central axis (34) of said welding torch (10), wherein a wire core (32) for the welding wire (13), or the welding wire (13) itself, follows a curved course (42) to form a wire buffer storage (43), and the amount of welding wire (13) contained in the wire buffer storage (43) is adjustable by a change of said curved course, wherein the wire buffer storage (43) is arranged immediately after the region of connection of the hose pack (23) within the torch body (27), and ~~that~~ wherein the hose pack (23) is arranged at an angle (33) of up to ~~900~~ 90 degrees relative to the central axis (34) of the welding torch (10)

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 1, wherein a sensor (39) is provided to capture the welding wire (13) stored in the wire buffer storage (43).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 2, wherein a sensor (39) is arranged in front of the drive unit (35), viewed in the conveying direction of the welding wire (13).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 1, wherein the wire core (32) is arranged in the end region within the torch body (27) so as to be freely movable in the longitudinal direction.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 4, wherein a sensor (39) is arranged to detect the movement of the wire core (32) in the freely movable end region of the wire core (32).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 5, wherein an indicator (40) is arranged in the freely movable end region of the wire core (32), and that the sensor (39) comprises at least one coil (41) surrounding said indicator (40) and having an inductance that is changeable by the position of the indicator (40).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 1, wherein the wire core (32) is fixed in the region of the drive unit (35).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 1, wherein the wire core (32) terminates immediately after the region of connection of the hose pack (23) to the torch body (27), and that the welding wire (13) is subsequently arranged to extend barely as far as to the drive unit (35).

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 1, wherein the wire core (32) terminates immediately after the region of connection of the hose pack (23) on the torch body (27), and that the welding wire (13) is arranged in a

flexible guide hose (47) within the wire buffer storage (43).

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 1, wherein limit elements (45) are arranged in the torch body (27) to delimit the curved course of the unguided welding wire (13)

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 1, wherein the connection of the hose pack (23) to the torch body (27) is realized by a coupling device (24).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A welding torch according to claim 1, wherein the hose pack (23) is arranged to be adjustable relative to the torch body (27) so as to enable a change of the amount of welding wire (13) contained in the wire buffer storage (43) by such an adjustment.